

VAST ATTENDANCE AT CONVENTION

Christian Endeavorers Are Gathering From All Parts of World.

MEET IN ATLANTIC CITY

Attractive Program, With Many Prominent Speakers, Has Been Provided.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Atlantic City, July 5.—With every hotel and boarding house crowded to its utmost, those in charge of the twenty-fifth International Christian Endeavor Convention, which opens here to-morrow and closes on the 12th, predict that all past attendance records will be eclipsed, and that the present gathering will go down in history as the most successful rally since the birth of the organization.

That the most sanguine predictions of those in charge of the great convention have been surpassed is jubilantly admitted at headquarters, and when a reason for the vast attendance is sought the officials point with pride to the long and interesting program devised for the delegates' instruction and amusement, and the list of prominent speakers who have signed their intention of addressing the delegates and visitors. Among the latter are: President Taft, Hon. Champ Clark, Speaker of the House of Representatives; former Vice-President Charles W. Fairbanks, Judge Ben Lindsey, of Denver; Booker T. Washington, Commander Eva Booth, of the Salvation Army; Rev. F. J. Horsefield, president of the British Christian Endeavor Union; Rev. G. F. Kuda, of Japan; Rev. H. I. Marshall, of Burma; Rev. R. S. Gray, of New Zealand; John W. Wainwright, of Philadelphia, and a score of more of prominent pastors and specialists in Christian Endeavor work from many denominations and missionaries from foreign lands.

Many Features. Apart from the prominent speakers, there are many other features that have undoubtedly had great influence in swelling the attendance. For instance, twelve of the largest cities in the United States are sending choruses, composed of from 200 to 300 trained voices to assist in the musical program. These separate choruses will be assigned to different periods of the week's convention, and the whole will be merged in one great choir under the supervision of Percy S. Foster, in the largest open air service ever held in America.

But most attractive of all, perhaps, is the leniency of the official program, and the manifest solicitude of the officials for the pleasure as well as the instruction of their guests. This year the program has been so arranged that all the practical working sessions will be held in the morning, giving ample opportunity for bathing and other recreations from 10 A. M. to 2:30 P. M., thus devoting the heat of the secular days to an enjoyment of the hundreds of entertainments and features the great summer resort offers to its visitors.

Other features of the program will be a unique "quiet hour" open air service on Atlantic City's million dollar pier, a great structure of concrete and iron that extends a quarter of a mile into the ocean. This service is planned for the early morning, from 9 to 10:30 A. M. each day. The Christian Endeavor Institute will meet to discuss all phases of the manifold undertakings of the great organization. For those who do not care to attend the meetings of the institute, an innovation, "the consultation hour," has been added to the program. During this period Endeavorers will be free to bring their personal problems to the society's experts for consideration in a conversational way.

From 10:30 to 2:15 will be the rest period. At 3 P. M. and 8 P. M. there will be two or more great simultaneous meetings on the pier, where the great questions of personal religion, evangelism, missions, temperance, civic righteousness, interdenominational fellowship and international brotherhood will be discussed by speakers of international repute.

Program Opens To-Day.

To-morrow evening the convention will be opened on the million dollar pier by an address from President Francis E. Clark, D. D., LL. D., prayer and praise services and a musical program, which includes some special music by the Hawaiian delegates and the Washington chorus. Among those who will speak are John T. Sproull, president of the New Jersey State Christian Endeavor Union; Rev. Howard B. Grose, D. D., vice-president of the board of trustees, and William Shaw, general secretary of the society.

Friday, July 7, will be Presidents Day. It will begin at 6:30 A. M. with a quiet sunrise hour on the Million Dollar Pier. At 9 the institute will convene for the discussion of Christian Endeavor work by a long list of speakers. In the afternoon the Indianapolis chorus will be heard at the Auditorium. While those attending the Auditorium will listen to Enos Bacon, "The Yorkshire Nightingale," and W. O. Weeden, soloist, together with the Essex, Hudson and Union choruses. In the evening the program will be followed, which will include special religious services and dissertations on the work of the organization throughout the world. Friday evening President Taft is scheduled to address the assembled Endeavorers in both the Auditorium and the Williston, together with Judge Ben B. Lindsey and John Wainwright.

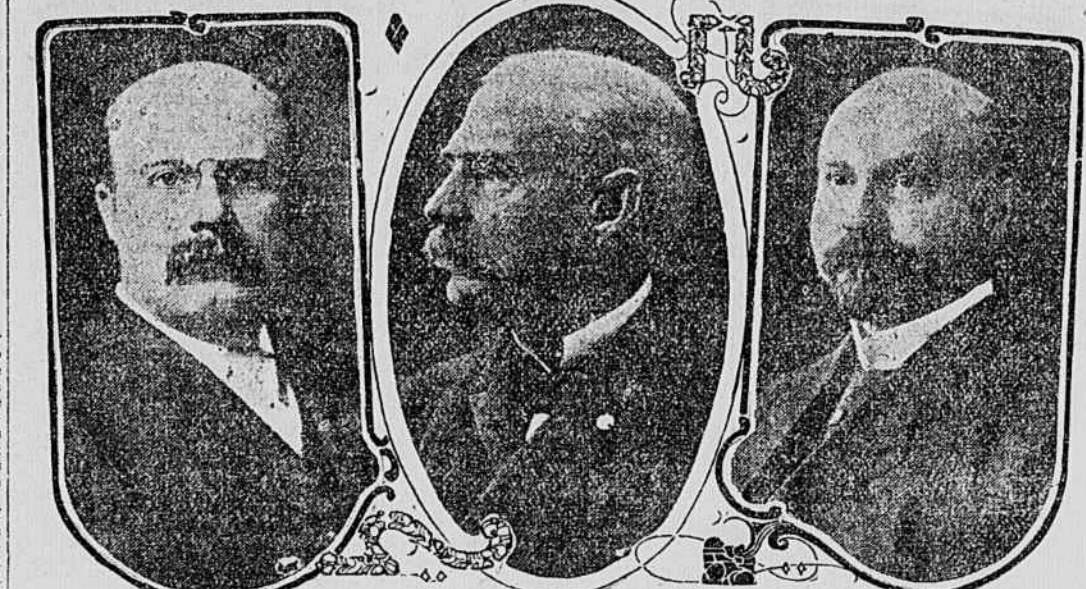
On Saturday the usual routine will be observed, with music by the Atlantic City Junior chorus in the afternoon and the united choruses in the evening. Sunday morning will be taken up with special services, at which over a score of pastors will address the delegates. On Sunday afternoon, the Million Dollar Pier will be the scene of two meetings, one for men and the other for women, which will be entertained by a combined chorus of men and a similar body of women, each singing before their own sex. These meetings will be addressed by several prominent ministers.

In the evening the Philadelphia and Reading, Pa., choruses will sing before the audiences in the Auditorium and Williston and Endeavor while Commander Eva Booth, of the Salvation Army, addresses the audience of the Auditorium. Endeavor and the Rev. F. E. Meyer, of London, will talk to the Endeavorers in the Williston. Christian Endeavor and prison reform will be discussed by a number of prominent divines at the Auditorium. On Monday afternoon, after the routine program, denominational rallies will engage the attention of the delegates. While in the evening the meetings will be addressed by a number of men prominent in Endeavor work. Music will be provided by the Williston and Endeavor choruses at the Williston and the Reading, Pa., chorus at the Auditorium.

At the Auditorium Endeavorers on Tuesday the Baltimore chorus will sing before the audience, while the audience of the Williston will be entertained by the Washington chorus. Both audiences will be given short talks by the organization's State presidents, besides the routine work.

On Wednesday the closing day of the convention, the regular program will be supplemented by two combined choruses, which will number nearly 1,700 voices each and will sing before the audiences of the Auditorium and Williston. Then the Endeavorers will formally break camp with a benediction and closing message from President Clark.

Three Officers of the United Society of Christian Endeavor



On the left is William Shaw, general secretary; in the center is Frank E. Clark, D. D., LL. D., president, and on the right is H. N. Sathrop, treasurer.

DENIES ASSERTIONS OF PROFESSOR DODD

Congressman Flood Defends Political and Moral Conditions in Virginia.

DEPLORES UNJUST ATTACKS Upholds Integrity of Press and Praises Advancement of South.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] West Point, Va., July 5.—In the course of a stirring patriotic address, delivered before an enthusiastic Fourth of July crowd here, on Tuesday, Congressman Hal D. Flood, of the Tenth Virginia District, vigorously repudiated some of the assertions made in a recent speech by Professor Dodd, of Chicago University, in which the latter deplored and criticized political conditions in Virginia and North Carolina and attacked the integrity of the press.

Congressman Flood paid his respects to men who, by unjust and unwarranted criticisms of moral, business and political conditions, are doing Virginia much harm. In the beginning of his address he described the conditions which led up to the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, the Revolutionary War and the beneficent effect that the principle laid down by Jefferson had upon the cause of liberty, the world over, and especially in the twenty South American republics.

Part Played by South. He then described the part Virginia and the South had played in every important event in the history of this country. He took a bright view of conditions in Virginia and the outlook for her future, and maintained that it was the duty of every Virginian to give credit to the State and its people for the good they were accomplishing. Instead of indulging in injurious and unjust criticisms.

Continuing, he declared: "I am not a pessimist about this State, about her future material advancement and progress, or about the integrity of her political leaders, the honor of her business men, the fair dealing of her press or independence of her judiciary. I believe her judges are the equals in ability and character, learning and independence of the great judges which in the past she furnished to the State and the Union who made so glorious the present history of our country."

Best Day in History. "I believe the best day in her history has been to-day. I believe that never were her public morals on a higher plane, nor her business morality better. I believe that she never had an able or more efficient set of public officials filling her county and State offices and representing her in the national capital than at present. I believe that never were her elections more honest or more representative of public sentiment than they are to-day. Of all the hundred counties and seventeen cities, there are only one or two in which there is any charge of fraud or unfairness at her primary or regular elections."

"We all wish for the time when there will be no county or city or precinct in the State in which there is any suspicion of unfair dealing in our elections, and that time is near at hand, but I call attention to the present state of affairs to make the assertion, which no truthful man can contradict, that never in her history have elections in Virginia been more free from fraud or the suspicion of fraud as they are to-day, and there is no State in the nation whose record in this respect is better than that of the Old Dominion, and very few that can point to so good a record. Those who compare political conditions in Virginia with those in Illinois, New York and other States of that character, are either very ignorant, or are unwilling to acknowledge the State and her people."

"I have seen a typewritten copy of a speech of a professor of the University of Chicago, delivered at Louisville yesterday, attacking supposed conditions in Virginia. This party stated in his speech that the institution at which he was a professor was founded by a man whose life had not been honorable or creditable; and yet this professor is willing to participate in the income which this university has, by reason of the influence of a dishonest benefactor. I will leave to the good sense of the audience to determine the propriety of his position. Further on in his speech I read this statement: 'Do you know that Thomas F. Ryan controls your newspapers?' meaning the Virginia papers. One of these men pay your Virginia machine expenses, meaning the Virginia Democratic organization, and was long a member of its executive committee, once going so far as to provide a private car for the Virginia delegates to the National Democratic Convention at St. Louis. These dele-

gates voted joyfully for the nomination of Alton B. Parker, an ally of Ryan. **Reckless Speech.** "The statement gives you an idea of the recklessness of the whole speech. Every child in Virginia knows that Mr. Ryan does not control the Virginia newspaper, and the statement to that effect is without truth. No man believes that amount of money that Mr. Ellyson uses in our campaigns. "No one but a most reckless man would have made the statement that the Virginia delegation of 1901 to the St. Louis convention went there in the private car of any man. I happened to attend that convention, and I know most of the delegates went together in cars which were chartered by the delegation, and that each man paid his proportionate part of the cost. Every intelligent man in Virginia knows that the delegation sent to St. Louis in 1904 was practically instructed by the Virginia Convention, which assembled in the city of Richmond in May of that year to vote for Judge Parker. Instructions were not given because the leaders of the delegation stated on the floor of the convention that the delegation knew the people of Virginia were for Judge Parker, and it was unnecessary, therefore, to instruct them. The delegates at large upon that occasion were Senators John W. Daniel and Thomas S. Martin, Governor Andrew Jackson Montague and Mr. A. C. Braxton, a native of your county and a man who has greatly distinguished himself at the bar and in the public affairs of Virginia."

"It is amazing that one holding the responsible position of professor in a university, even one that is dishonestly endowed, should cast such aspersions upon gentlemen simply because they occupy a public position. **State-Wide Love for Daniel.** "For thirty years the Senator whose name I first mentioned was not only the leader of his party in Virginia, but was the most beloved citizen of the State. This love for Senator Daniel was confined to no particular sections, but from where the billows of Atlantic washes our eastern front to the lofty ridge which receives its name from the bending heavens that bathes its summits in their own soft blue and beyond where the Cumberland range marks our remotest western border everywhere the citizens of Virginia vied with one another in up-doubled admiration and love for the noble gentleman, the mailed Confederate soldier, the brilliant orator, the profound constitutional lawyer, the sound statesman, whom they delighted to acknowledge as their unchallenged leader. "Statements of the character made by this beneficiary of dishonest endowments should, in my judgment, be repudiated by every Virginian who loves his State and reveres the memory of her great sons, and is willing to see her good name and their fame trampled with impunity. "I do not believe that the people of the State approve such sentiments or endorse such utterances. "I believe that kindness and love and charity and honesty and integrity and loyalty and self-sacrifice were never more universal within her borders nor more effective than on this day in whose unhindered splendor we are celebrating the birth of this nation."

"We have been greatly blessed in many ways. Our fathers fought and suffered and died that we might have a glorious heritage and their fathers before them met bravely the troubles of their times. There is upon us an obligation of maintaining through the years to see to it that the heritage that we have thus received shall pass on to coming generations not only not impaired, but increased, multiplied and glorified; but let us remember that this conservation for the future can never be brought about by men too jealous to be just or too narrow to be brave. It cannot be accomplished by false witness or slanders. The past teaches us that we cannot conquer the world for good, by hate and malice and misrepresentation or by evading opportunity. **Repeat Unjust Criticism.** "Let us stand up for our community and our State. Let us defend their fair names whether they are unjustly assailed by enemies from without or disloyal sons from within. Let us uphold the hands of our public servants and repeat unjust and reckless criticisms of them as long as they are acting for the public good, remembering that for every act of disloyalty of those officials there are 10,000 unrecorded acts of patriotism, of loyalty and fidelity. Let us stand by our honest business institutions, remembering that the dishonest business man is the exception and not the rule. "We must look beyond the criticism of jealous democracies and the unsupported assertions of the self-seeker, to the accomplishments for good by the men in the political and business life of the State against whom their harpings and slanders are directed. "We should take pleasure in the fact that the public men of the South and

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